

here are about \$300. So I am sure we can do better.

Mr. Speaker, as we enter the holiday season, I also want to spotlight other Atlanta organizations for their support of those in need. I want to celebrate Tyler Perry Studios for telling uplifting and inspiring stories and using their state-of-the-art facilities to support 5,000 families with food this past Thanksgiving.

I also want to acknowledge two non-profit organizations—Caring for Others and Hosea Feed the Hungry—that are both helping to fill the gaps during this pandemic.

We, in Congress, also need to do our part. As I stated earlier, we can do better than the \$600 being discussed in this stimulus proposal. It is a good start, but it is not enough.

There are other Atlanta-based companies that are doing notable work that merit recognition: UPS, which has been critical in the disbursement of the COVID vaccine; and other companies, like Global Payments and Equifax.

Later this week, I also plan to introduce legislation to advocate for the continuation of the John Lewis Loop and Campbellton Road. Also in need of inclusion is Old National Highway, Fulton Industrial Boulevard, Candler Road, Camp Creek, and Martin Luther King Drive. They all need relief now. They are critical to job creation in our community and need investment.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS THE PARTY FOR ALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on December 4, Speaker PELOSI and Congressman CLYBURN announced the unveiling of a new exhibit in the Capitol that pays tribute to Joseph Rainey, the first Black Member of the House of Representatives.

He served from 1869 until 1879. He was the first African American to preside over the House, and he was the longest-serving Black lawmaker in Congress during Reconstruction. In fact, he was a founding member of the South Carolina Republican Party.

Two other Republicans, George White and Jefferson Long, made history as the first Black Members of Congress from North Carolina and Georgia during the same period. George White, from North Carolina, was a staunch advocate for other Black Republicans in the State and often took Democrats to task for not accepting the values that other Black Republicans held as well.

Their stories deserve due recognition, and they also serve as reminders that political affiliations of any type are based on the values that one espouses, not just the color of one's skin or sex.

It is unfortunate that more Black Republicans are not elected to the House of Representatives or to the Senate. That is because Black Republicans

have been attacked repeatedly by the Democratic Party and their friends in the mainstream media.

Mr. Speaker, even now, Democrats are still peddling a facade of being the party of the people. However, their outright rejection of those who hold different beliefs just goes to show how contradictory the party truly is.

Meanwhile, the Republican Party welcomes members from all different backgrounds. Just look at the diverse new Republican representatives that the American people elected to Congress: women, veterans, and minorities. Those are the Republican candidates from across the country who have proven that Republican values are not the values of a few; they are the values of many.

If we look at the centennial of the 19th Amendment that happened this year, we see the same disinformation tactics at play. Democrats harp incessantly about how they were the ones that fought for the 19th Amendment, but history tells a different story. On May 21, 1919, 200 Republicans voted for the 19th Amendment in the House, while many Democrats objected.

Mr. Speaker, facts can't be forsaken as we look back at these historic events. However, flip through the pages of any classroom textbook and you do not see the Republican Party getting the credit it deserves for fighting for equality, women, and minority populations.

Americans are not consigned to one set of political ideologies based on immutable characteristics. Free societies are built by an open exchange of ideas, and that exchange must be respected.

The American people do not need to be told how to feel, how to think, and what values they should support. That is irresponsible. The American people are perfectly capable of coming to their own conclusions, but they need the facts presented to them.

The Republican Party is the party of equality, and the facts clearly show that.

RECOGNIZING LOCAL HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, over the last 10 months, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on our communities: from our frontline heroes working around the clock to families who have gone hungry, to the millions who have lost their jobs, and, heartbreakingly, the over 300,000 who have lost their lives.

While many of us believe that the Federal Government can and still should do much more to alleviate the impact of the pandemic, we all can be inspired by the compassion, innovation, and resilience of the people in our communities who have stepped up to serve and to try to fill the needs laid bare by this crisis. They are our local heroes.

A few weeks ago, my office launched a local heroes initiative to showcase the countless people in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District who have gone above and beyond to help those in need throughout this crisis. In just the first few days, we received over 100 submissions, and it has grown since then.

From nurses on our front lines to children organizing food drives, we were overwhelmed by the stories of resilience, ingenuity, and absolute determination by members of our community whose stories we don't hear enough. So, today, I want to share a few of their stories.

I am talking about people like Nicole, an emergency manager, who is now serving our community by running two emergency rooms due to the overwhelming number of COVID-19 cases. Aunt Nee Nee, as she is known to her beloved nieces and nephews, has only been able to see her family for limited amounts of time, if at all, since the pandemic started.

People like Jillian, a mom of three, who regularly works 15-hour shifts in the ER, then comes home, disposes of her scrubs in a bin so she can hug her kids and help them do their schoolwork. She is a real-life superhero.

Young people like Emily, just 14 years old, who, when she realized that some children in our community would be without holiday gifts this year, organized a toy drive, contributing her babysitting money and recruiting her younger brother and sisters to help make cards and wrap the gifts.

People like Michelle, a nonprofit leader, who has ensured that our LGBTQ communities are not left behind during this crisis; working to secure housing, food, and medications for immunocompromised community members.

Teachers like Jimmy, from Upper Darby, who knows how hard this transition has been for both students and teachers. So he has gone above and beyond to share acts of kindness, like dropping off doughnuts for his fellow teachers or helping students get help to obtain the technology they need for virtual learning.

People like Ala Stanford and the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium, who organized free COVID testing for our most at-risk communities when it became apparent that they could not otherwise obtain testing.

County employees, like Ed and Gayle, who have reinvented and organized dozens of drive-thru food drives to help feed our neighbors and keep the donors safe.

These local heroes should inspire all of us, no matter what our party, to fight for more relief that the American people deserve.

Every day we delay getting relief to them means more businesses go under, people get sicker, more Americans die, and families are stretched even thinner financially. We have got to get this done. The American people cannot wait.